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United States Department of Agriculture,
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,
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JAPAN CLOVER (*Lespedeza striata*).

Japan clover is an annual legume which has remarkable ability to grow on very thin, poor land and thrives well on good soil. As usually seen it is a low-growing plant, rarely attaining a height of more than 7 or 8 inches. On good soil it will grow tall enough to be used as a hay plant, under the most favorable circumstances attaining a height of 18 to 24 inches. When once established on a piece of ground it needs no further attention, as it seeds itself and spreads quite rapidly in waste places. It is easily killed out by plowing the field and is therefore not a weed.

Its greatest usefulness is as a pasture plant in the Southern States, where it is now growing wild to a great extent. It is a warm-weather plant and has no promise north of the Ohio River or west of the eastern part of Kansas and central Texas. It may also prove of value on the Pacific coast and in the mountain foothills of California. It is especially valuable for pasture in poor soils in open woodlands.

Seeding.—Japan clover is rarely sown, coming into waste places in the South of its own accord. It should be planted at the rate of 10 to 15 pounds per acre, harrowing in the seed. Do not seed until warm weather prevails.

